



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: May 6, 2003
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **Public Hearing related to the 2003 Minneapolis Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report required by City of Minneapolis National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit #MN0061018 for a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.**

Recommendation:

- To receive public comment and direct staff to respond to questions and issues raised regarding the 2003 Minneapolis Storm Water Management Program and Annual Report, pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 14 of the City of Minneapolis National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit #MN0061018.
- Authorize application for renewal of NPDES Permit #MN0061018 due July 3, 2003 to be signed by the Mayor of Minneapolis.

Previous Directives:

April 22, 2003 - Set Public Hearing as required by the City's NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Permit.

Prepared by: Jane Onorati, P.E., Engineering Services, 673-2455

Approved by: Klara A. Fabry, Director of Public Works

Paul W. Ogren, Director, Engineering Services

Presenters: Jane Onorati, P.E., Engineer II

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- ☒ No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☐ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):
- ☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information Attached:

History

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System is a program that was created in 1990 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to protect water quality by regulating the discharge of pollutants to lakes, streams, wetlands and other surface waters. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is the local authority responsible for administering this program in the state of Minnesota. Under this program, specific permits are issued to regulate different types of municipal and industrial activities. The City of Minneapolis maintains two different National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. The Combined Sewer Overflow Permit regulates combined storm and wastewater discharges from the sanitary sewer system, and the Municipal Storm Sewer System Permit regulates stormwater runoff discharges from the storm drain system.

In Minneapolis, development of programs to mitigate stormwater pollution impacts on local surface water quality and meet NPDES permit requirements began with the preparation of NPDES Permit Applications Part 1 (1991) and 2 (1992). Examples of some of these activities also referred to as Best Management Practices (BMPs) include control of construction site runoff, long-term stormwater management for new developments, street sweeping and control of deicing materials, storm drain system cleaning and repair, inclusion of water quality components in storm drain and flood project designs, public education, and stormwater runoff monitoring.

Requirements for Annual Reporting, Public Comment, and Council Action

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency issued the first National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Storm Sewer System Permit to Minneapolis on December 1, 2000. This Permit requires the implementation of approved stormwater management activities also referred to as Best Management Practices, and annual documentation in the form of a Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report due on June 1st. This Report presents the activities that will be implemented for the current and following year, and provides documentation and analysis of the activities conducted in the previous year.

The Permit also requires an opportunity for public input into the development of the priorities and programs necessary for compliance, and adoption of the Annual Report as the City's Stormwater Management Plan. A summary of the public's input and the City's response to the comments are also required to be included as part of the City Council's adoption of the Report through a formal resolution. A Public Hearing notice was sent to interested parties including environmental groups and related governmental entities. A Public Hearing notice was also posted in the Finance and Commerce April 24 edition. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on May 9, 2003. After the deadline for public comments, staff will prepare a written response to all comments received either presented in testimony at the public hearing or submitted in writing. This written response will be included with the Annual Report and presented to the Transportation and Public Works Committee on May 20 to recommend adoption by the Minneapolis City Council.

2002 Stormwater Management Highlights

- Constructed stormwater treatment chambers at all five storm outlets to Powderhorn Lake.
- Inspected and cleaned all 87 grit chambers (up from 81 in 2001). A total of 415 cubic yards or about 580 tons of grit were removed.
- Inspected 264 of 390 storm drain outfalls since the beginning of the 5-year inspection program.
- Site plan review required long-term stormwater management for 43 sites to comply with stormwater ordinance regulations for new developments.

- 14,000 tons material reclaimed with street sweeping operations during spring and summer.
- 3,200 tons of leaves collected for composting during fall citywide sweep.
- Completed two flood control stormwater ponds.
- Provided water quality educational programming including catch basin stenciling, community events, and the annual Earth Day cleanup event to 4,327 participants.
- Water quality improved or remained stable in 8 of 10 City lakes monitored.
- Implemented monitoring of new stormwater treatment chambers around Powderhorn and Nokomis Lakes.
- Began Wetland Health Evaluation Project.
- Started work on the Minneapolis Local Surface Water Management Plan, which will have a great impact and benefits for stormwater management within the City.

New Permit Application

The current 3-year permit expires at the end of 2003. The application and proposals for the City's next NPDES Municipal Storm Sewer System Permit is in preparation and will be submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency by July 3, 2003. The Transportation and Public Works Committee will be updated as negotiations proceed.

Attachment 1 - 2003 Minneapolis NPDES Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report, Executive Summary

C: Corey Conover, City Attorney
Mike Schmidt, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board